Press Release on Book Collection for EIT

For a considerable time now, the Association of Eritreans and their Friends in Michigan (AEFM) and the Eritrean Development Foundation (EDF) have been coordinating their efforts and resources in collecting the urgently needed reference and text books for the Eritrean Institute of Science and Technology and Teacher Training College at Mai NefHi, (EIT) Eritrea. Even though AEFM and EDF spear-headed the book collection campaign, it is our pleasure to note that other organizations and individuals participated to make the campaign a successful endeavor. By the middle of 2006 about \$36,000 US was raised for this project.





In early 2006 the EIT book Drive Committee used the EDF funds of US \$20,000 to ship over 10,000 new books ranging from 20 to 200 copies of each books. These books arrived in Massawa in April 2006. Then, in early May 2006 the second shipment of books carrying also over 10,000 books left for



Massawa and arrived in Late June. For the second shipment, the EIT book Drive Committee paid about \$8,700 to collect the books from all over the US and ship them to Eritrea. It is worth mentioning the average price of the books was over \$100. From our latest communication with the school it is our pleasure to announce that the books are being used extensively by the EIT students and faculty.



When AEFM and EDF initiated this noble project, we hoped that we will be able to send most of the requested books numbering over 30,000 of multiple copies and that this would take three containers to ship. We should point out that the request from EIT was for specific books so



that more students could have more access. With the first

two shipments already in the school, two-thirds of the project is thus completed and we are finally working on our last shipment.



We like to express our profound appreciation and admiration for those who participated in the book collection project. We hope all those who can do so will visit the EIT library when they get a chance and see the results of our small, collective contribution towards the Institute library.

Unfortunately, the need is still out there. Therefore, to help us complete the

collection of the specific books still needed, we again appeal to our friends and all interested parties to donate whatever funds they can. Donations (particularly those supporters who have already pledged) should send their contributions to the following address with checks made payable to AEFM EIT Book Collection:



AEFM P.O. Box 293 East Lansing, MI 48826-0293

In the past, some people held EIT book collection Fund campaigns in private homes, schools, and houses of worship.

If you need more information, call or contact us by telephone or e-mail at the following:

(989) 948-4550: <u>EITBooks@hotmail.com</u> (517) 353-1700 (day) and (517) 644-2518 (evening); or Email: <u>fisseha@msu.edu</u>

Thank you,

Mussie Futur EIT BOOK Committee Coordinator